

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

XMT AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN GOV PANCANAL USCINCSO FROM
PANAMA 15 MAR 73 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

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DEPT PASS ALL ARA POSTS

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, PN, UN

SUBJ: UN SECURITY COUNCIL

FROM US DELEGATION

SUMMARY: TORROJOS, AS HEAD OF PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT,
TOOK CHAIR AT OPENING SESSION OF SC AND DELIVERED HARSHLY
WORDED ATTACK ON UNITED STATES CANAL POLICY
SEEKING TO IDENTIFY PANAMANIAN STRUGGLE WITH THOS
FIGHTING COLONIALISM THROUGHOUT WORLD. HE SPECIFICALLY
SUPPORTED PERU, CHILE, AND CUBA, IN THEIR PROBLEMS
WITH US. END SUMMARY.

1. SC PRESIDENT AQUILINO BOYD OPENED INAUGURAL
SESSION PROMPTLY AT 10:30 AM, ASKED FOR AND RECEIVED
APPROVAL OF AGENDA, AND PROCEEDED AT ONE TO
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INTRODUCE BRIG. GEN. OMAR TORRIJOS " LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA."

2. TORRIJOS, DRESSED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES, WELCOMED THE DELEGATION WITH " THE FRANKNESS WHICH IS A FEATURE OF PANAMA" WITH THE HOPE THAT THE MEETING WOULD PLACE PANAMA " ON THE WORLD MAP OF DIGNITY". HE SAID THE MEETING HERE WOULD GIVE THE DELEGATES AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THEIR SHIPS PASS THROUGH 50 MILES OF " NOT SO PEACEFUL HOSTORY" AND TO " SEE THE SCOURGES THAT THREATEN TO DESTROY PEACEFUL CO- EXISTENCE". TORROJOS ADDED THAT THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM COLONIALISM AND PROCEEDED TO CITE VARIOUS EXAMPLES OF IT AND THEN SAID PANAMA HAS LIVED THROUGH ALL OF THEM . HE ADDED THAT PANAMA CANNOT ACCEPT THE " SUBJUGATION AND PENETRATION OF NEO- COLOLIALISM AS REPRESENTED BY CONTINUED ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE NOT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RECIPIENT BUT FOR THE CONTROL OF ITS PEOPLE. TORRIJOS SAID THE HILLS OF PANAMA ARE FILLED WITH THE BODIES OF PANAMANIAN WHO FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE NOT TO ACCEPT THIS SYSTEM. PANAMANIAN SEEK, HE SAID, THE RIGHT TO EXPLOIT THEIR OWN NATURAL RESOURCES AND FREELY TO COMMUNICATE WITH THOSE PEOPLE IT CHOOSES. HE CITED AS OTHER EXAMPLES OF RESTRICTIONS ON A NATIONS EXPLOITATION OF ITS NATURAL RESOURCES THE CASES OF CHILEAN COPPER AND PERUVIAN OIL. HE SAID THE AWAKENING OF LATIN AMERICA MUST BE ASSISTED AND THAT ANYONE WHO STANDS IN ITS WAY CREATES HOSTILLERY TO ITS UPHEAVALS.

3. TURNING TO THE QUESTION OF CUBA, THE GENERAL ARGUED THAT BLOCKADES AND PRESSURES ARE MORE SHAMEFUL FOR THOSE WHO CONSTRUCT THEM THAN FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM THEM. HE URGED THAT THE UN TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN A SOLUTION OF TRUE PROBLEMS SAYING THAT THE ISOLATION OF CUBA SPELLS SHAME.

4. PANAMA CANOT ACCEPT THE PRINCIPAL OF " VITAL INTERESTS AND NATIONAL SECURITY" AS A PRINCIPLE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. HE ASKED WHY A NATION NOT COLONIALIST MAINTAINS A COLONY IN PANAMA. TORRIJOS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCUDED BY ASKING THE WORLD FOR MORAL HELP

AND SAID THAT " OUR PEOPLE ARE REACHING THE LIMITS OF THEIR PATIENCE". HE ASKED THE DELEGATES TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS: IS IT CORRECT NOT TO RESPECT A FLAG OF A NATION WHICH HAS NOT BEEN AGGRESSIVE? IS IT MORAL TO DENY MATERIAL ADVANTAGES TO THOSE WHO DESIRE THEM? IN WHAT MODERN LEGAL DICTIONARY IS PERPETUITY STILL USED AS A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS? FINALLY, HE PASSED A MESSAGE FROM THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE TO THE WORLD THAT PANAMA NEVER HAS AND NEVER WILL BE A COLONY OR ASSOCIATED STATE OR ANOTHER STAR IN THE US FLAG.

5. SPEECH RECEIVED POLITE, UNENTHUSIASTIC APPLAUSE.
FBIS VERBATIM TEXT FOLLOWS WITHIN HOUR.

6. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM BRIEFLY ADDRESSED THE GATHERING WITHOUT REFERENCE TO TORRIJOS' SPEECH NOTING THE VALUE OF DIRECT UN CONTACT WITH THE REGIONS CONCERNED AND CALLING THE ADDIS MEETING A SUCCESS. HE NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF REGIONAL COOPERATION AND THAT THE OAS RENDERED VALUABLE ASSISTANCE IN PEACEFUL SETTLEMENTS. HE NOTED THAT IS IS RIGHT THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD BE MADE AWARE OF LATIN AMERICAN PROBLEMS AND THAT THE UN IS WILLING TO MAKE MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO EFFECTIVENESS OF REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

7. TORROJOS RECESSED THE SESSION AT 11:00 A. M. ONE HALF HOUR AFTER IT HAD BEGUN.

8. USDEL COMMENT: TORRIJOS' TOUGH KICK- OFF SPEECH GENERALLY CONFIRMS " GAME- PLAN- AND MAKES IT OVERT. WHILE WE STILL HAVE NOT DRAFT RESES, SPEECH PROVIDES BASE POINT TO WHICH MUCH OF SUBSEQUENT RHETORIC AND RESOLUTION- MONGERING WILL BE ARTICULATED.
SAYRE UNQUOTE
ROGERS

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